MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

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FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2, 2016/2017

DEN5018 – ENGLISH

(All Groups)

07 MARCH 2017
9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This question paper consists of **NINE** pages only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in **Sections A and B.**
3. Please write all your answers in the Answer Booklet provided.

SECTION A: READING AND VOCABULARY [30 MARKS]

Instructions: *Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.*

The Bite that Heals

1 Michael decided to go for a swim. He was on holiday with his family in Guerrero, Mexico. He waded in the river, and behind him, there was an ugly yellow creature in the water. He scooped it into a container, and he was rushed to the local clinic, where doctors immediately identified his attacker: a bark scorpion, one of the most **venomous** species in North America. The fierce pain from a sting is typically followed by what feels like electric shocks racking the body. He had an injection, and in about 30 hours, the pain was gone.

2 What happened next could not have been predicted. For eight years, Michael had endured a sickness called spinal arthritis, a disease of the skeleton. No one knows what causes it. In the worst cases, it may leave the patient forever in pain. "I had back pain every morning, and it was so horrible that I couldn't even walk," he says. However, days after the scorpion sting, the pain caused by his spinal arthritis went away, and now, two years later, he remains essentially free of most of his medications. As a doctor himself, Michael says, "If the pain came back, I would let that scorpion sting me again."

3 Venom, the liquid that drips from the fangs and stingers of creatures which move on the hiking trail or hide under the woodpile, is nature's most menacing killer. Certain types of venom damage the nervous system, paralysing it by blocking signals between nerves and muscle. Some of them damage molecules in the body so that cells and tissues collapse. Venom can also kill by clotting blood and stopping the heart or by preventing blood clotting and causing death.

4 Ironically, the properties that make venom deadly also make it so valuable for medicine. For example, venom works fast and is highly specific, besides having active components, especially proteins that target and treat certain body cells. Most medicines work the same way, fitting into cells to treat the illness. Although it is a challenge to find the toxin that hits only a certain target, top medicines for heart diseases and diabetes have been procured from venom. In other words, venom has been used as the main component of these medicines.

5 Certainly, not all kinds of venom kill. For instance, bees have it as a defence which is not deadly, and the male platypus uses it to rival males during mating season. However, mostly, it is for killing, and humans are often accidental victims. The World Health Organisation estimates that every year, some five million bites kill 100,000 people, although the actual fatality number could be much higher. In rural areas of developing countries, where most bites occur, victims may not be able to get medicine or may instead choose traditional therapies to treat the wound.

6 In fact, venom-based cures are not a new idea. They show up, for example, in Sanskrit texts from the second century A.D. Around 67 B.C., Mithradates VI, the king of Pontus, was saved twice on the battlefield by traditional doctors who administered viper venom to his wounds. Cobra venom, applied for centuries in traditional Chinese and Indian medicine, was introduced to the West in the 1830s as a pain remedy. In addition, John Henry Clarke's *Materia Medica*, published around 1900, describes venom as alleviating many ills, even those caused by

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venom, by helping victims reduce their suffering.

7 Now, the field of venom-based medicine is flourishing. Teams across the world are studying animals in search of potent drugs that could speedily cure ills and become chemical weapons to successfully overcome ill effects in human body. Today's high-tech options, such as Designer Toxins, give sharper detail, making it easier to produce medicine from venom. This offers hope in the fight against a host of diseases, including muscular diseases, arthritis, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, stroke, asthma, heart failure and even cancer, just to name a few. Motivated by the usefulness of venom toxins, scientists are determined to continue studying the interactions between these toxins and human body, hoping that it will lead to a new understanding of diseases and treatments, even if the work takes another decade.

Adapted from Holland, J.S. (February 2013). *The bite that heals.* Retrieved from http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2013/02/125-venom/holland-text

Question 1: Contextual Clues (10 marks)

Instructions: *Provide a word from the reading passage for each definition below.*

Example: **producing poison or poisonous** **(paragraph 1)** **word: venomous**

i. experienced a difficult or painful situation (paragraph 2)

ii. dangerous or threatening (paragraph 3)

iii. qualities or characteristics of something that can be used in a particular way (paragraph 4)

iv. acquired or obtained (paragraph 4)

v. death caused by accident, disease or violence (paragraph 5)

vi. treatments for illnesses (paragraph 5)

vii. gave someone a drug or medical treatment (paragraph 6)

viii. making a condition less serious or painful (paragraph 6)

ix. powerful and effective (paragraph 7)

x. a large number (paragraph 7)

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Question 2: Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Instructions: *Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.*

The Uncontacted Indians of Brazil

1 Brazil's Amazon is home to more uncontacted tribes than anywhere else in the world. There are at least 100 isolated groups in this rainforest, numbering from 2,000 to 3,000 Indians in total, nearly all of whom live along the rivers in the Amazon, according to the Brazilian government's National Indian Foundation (FUNAI). Their decision not to maintain contact with outsiders is because of their fear of encountering outsiders. Some of them have had real bad experiences with outsiders. For instance, the uncontacted groups in Brazil were forced to become slaves in the rubber plantations in the 19th century. Several uncontacted tribes which prefer to reside deep in remote areas of the Amazon have faced long-running threats of violent encounters with outsiders, especially loggers, miners and oil and gas companies looking to exploit resources in the Amazon rainforest.

2 Since these peoples live deep in the forest, very little is known about them. A more well-known fact is that they have shot arrows at outsiders and airplanes, or they simply avoid contact by hiding deep in the forest. Some tribes, such as the uncontacted Awá, are nomadic hunter gatherers who are constantly on the move. They are able to build a home within hours and abandon it days later. Others are more settled, living in communal houses and planting crops in forest clearings as well as hunting and fishing.

3 In Acre, there could be as many as 600 Indians belonging to four different indigenous groups. They live in several territories which are largely untouched. In the Massacó territory, there are about 300 uncontacted Indians. The Indians who live in the Massacó territory are also nomadic people, and *this* is clearly indicated by the many camps they have abandoned.

4 Although most of these groups want to remain undisturbed in the jungle, their desire to do so has become increasingly difficult. Mega dam and road building projects, part of the government's development programme, cause huge disruptions to their life. Some of them are abandoning their land due to the noise and pollution from the construction sites. For example, the Jirau and Santo Antonio dams which are built on the Madeira river are very near to several groups of uncontacted Indians whose peaceful life has been severely destroyed. Evidence also suggests that loggers who deliberately cut down trees for profit force them to move from one place to another as their forest homes are rapidly destroyed.

5 Even though the tribes in the Amazon forest have decided to remain isolated from the national society, they do adopt changes in their lives. Most of them constantly adapt to their changing circumstances, and when threatened, they move to a safer area for survival. In addition, by having occasional contact with neighbouring tribes, many of them have become well aware of other societies around them.

6 A saddening truth is that these uncontacted groups are teetering on the edge of extinction with no more than a handful of individuals left. One such group, the Kawahiva tribe that lives in Brazil's Mata Grosso state, consists of only about 50 people. There are several reasons for the declining numbers of these uncontacted

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natives. The main reason is that they die from diseases as they are extremely vulnerable to diseases such as measles and influenza transmitted by outsiders and to which they have no resistance. A clear example is the Matis population which fell by half following an encounter with outsiders, when both young and old died from an introduced disease. Next, conflict and violent clashes with outsiders or other indigenous groups have led to the death of many of them. Furthermore, the tiny groups living mainly in Rondônia, Mato Grosso and Maranhão states are targeted and murdered by brutal farmers who try to occupy their land.

7 For decades, loggers who exploit the Amazon forest for wood have denied the existence of uncontacted tribes, despite the fact that video footage of the Kawahiva people was released in 2011 by a Brazilian government team during an encounter with the Kawahiva tribe. In addition, on July 1, 2014, FUNAI posted on its website that a group of Sapanahua tribal members came out of the Amazon. The emergence of the Sapanahua tribe clearly shows the existence of uncontacted Indians. It has also raised a serious question about why some uncontacted groups have decided to make contact with the outside world. According to FUNAI, some tribes have been driven out by illegal loggers who set their houses on fire. Apart from this, their decision to make contact is also caused by fear of violent attacks by drug traffickers who shoot at them, especially the elderly tribal members. Kim Hill, an anthropologist at Arizona State University, says, "They are interested in making contact with the outside world, but they are too afraid to do so. There is no such thing as a group that remains in isolation because they think it is cool to not have contact with anyone else on the planet."

8 Undeniably, many people and non-governmental bodies in Brazil think that the uncontacted peoples of Brazil are in need of protection. Before they, along with the forests they depend on, vanish forever, more actions must be initiated. One of the positive moves taken by FUNAI is signing an order forbidding anyone to enter the land which belongs to the Piripkura tribe without permission and banning all economic activities there. In another move, the Brazilian government has recently forced loggers to leave an Awá indigenous territory to protect the Awá people. The Brazilian Minister of Justice has also created a permanently protected territory for the uncontacted Kawahiva tribe after years of land raids by illegal loggers. Furthermore, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has released an extensive report urging the Brazillian government to preserve the rights of indigenous people who are threatened by loggers, miners, oil and gas companies and drug traffickers.

Adapted from Survival Internation. (n.d.). *The uncontacted Indians of Brazil*. Retrieved from http://www.survivalinternational.org/tribes/uncontacted-brazil

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Question 2A: True or False (5 marks)

Instructions: *For each statement, write (T) if the statement is true and (F) if the statement is false.*

a. The uncontacted Awá people are the more settled people who live in communal houses.

b. The Indians who live in Acre come from the same native group.

c. The Kawahiva people who live in Brazil's Mata Grosso state are near to becoming extinct.

d. Even though there is proof, loggers in Brazil refuse to recognise the existence of uncontacted Indians.

e. Kim Hill, an anthropologist at Arizona State University, believes that uncontacted groups do have the interest to interact with outsiders.

Question 2B: Comprehension Questions (15 marks)

Instructions: *Answer the following questions.*

a. i. Why do the uncontacted Indians in Brazil decide not to have contact with outsiders? (1 mark)

ii. Give two examples of their experiences which cause them to avoid having contact with outsiders. (2 marks)

b. What does the word "this" in line 22 refer to? (1 mark)

c. Why is it more difficult for the Indians in Brazil to remain uncontacted? (2 marks)

d. What is the main idea of paragraph 5? (1 mark)

e. What are the three reasons that explain the reducing numbers of the uncontacted Indians in Brazil? (3 marks)

f. Explain why some uncontacted groups have decided to make contact with outsiders. (2 marks)

g. State three actions taken by various parties to protect the uncontacted groups in Brazil. (3 marks)

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SECTION B: GRAMMAR [30 MARKS]

Question 1: Word Classes (10 marks)

Instructions: *Read the text and identify the correct word classes of the words in bold. Write your answers as shown in the example.*

Example: (0) active – adjective

Japan's Sakurajima Volcano is Due for a Major Eruption within the Next 30 Years

One of Japan's most **(0) active** volcanoes is due for a major eruption in the next 30 years, scientists have warned. At present, Sakurajima volcano is accumulating huge magma reservoirs, which experts say could be a **(1) precursor** to a large eruption, similar to the one that took place in 1914, when an explosive eruption killed 58 and caused widespread flooding in the city of Kagoshima.

A large eruption at Sakurajima has the potential to cause **(2) significant** damage; thus, understanding the size and timing of a future eruption for hazard preparation is vital. In a study published in *Scientific Reports*, researchers have now assessed the build-up of magma **(3) beneath** Sakurajima volcano, with findings showing that magma is being supplied to the system faster than it is being erupted.

The team, led by scientists at the University of Bristol, **(4) found** that the ground around the volcano has been continually uplifting, and when the magma reservoir expands below the surface, the ground swells up. GPS deformation measurements and 3D computer models then allowed them to create a **(5) reconstruction** of the magma plumbing system under the volcano. Their findings showed that a volume of 14 million cubic metres of magma accumulates every year.

What they have discovered is not just how the magma flows into the reservoir, **(6) but** it is also how great the reservoir is becoming. From the **(7) meticulously** recorded data, they think it would take around 130 years for the volcano to store the same amount of magma for another eruption of a similar size, and this means another eruption will take place in around 25 years.

While predicting when a volcano will erupt is not possible, the team say **(8) their** findings should help authorities plan for future disasters. They believe that this new approach could help improve eruption forecasting at volcanoes worldwide. Lead author, James Hickey, says, "We know that forewarning actually **(9) forearms** the people, and providing essential information for local authorities can potentially help save many lives if an eruption is **(10) imminent**." Haruhisa Nakamichi, associate professor at the Disaster Prevention Research Institute, Kyoto University, and co-author, says, "100 years has already passed since the 1914 eruption, less than 30 years is left until the next expected big eruption."

Adapted from Osborne, H. (September 2016). *Japan's Sakurajima volcano is due for a major eruption within the next 30 years.* Retrieved from http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/japans-sakurajima-volcano-due-major-eruption-within-next-30-years-1581119

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Question 2: Subject-Verb Agreement (10 marks)

Instructions: *The following extract contains 10 errors in subject-verb agreement. Identify the errors and correct them as shown in the example.*

Example:

No.	Line	Error	Correction
0	1	is	are

Smelly Corpse Flower about to Bloom in NYC

Corpse flowers **is** tropical plants that can grow up to 10 feet tall and take a decade to form their first bloom. When they bloom, they release a pungent odour which some people compare to that of a dead animal. The corpse flower is one of the largest flowering plants in the world. It is also one of the rarest to see, since it take a long period of time to develop from a seed to the first flower.

In the New York Botanical Garden in the United States, the stench of rotting flesh permeate the whole garden when a corpse flower blooms. Despite the stench, horticulturalists and the public flock to see it, partly because corpse flowers blooms only for a few days, and the blooming cycle is unpredictable. The plant attracts crowds because of the infamous odour it releases during its brief 24 to 36 hours of peak bloom.

The New York Botanical Garden have a lengthy history with corpse flowers. The plant is native to Sumatra, Indonesia, but one bloomed at the New York Botanical Garden in 1937, making it the first time a corpse flower had bloomed in the Western Hemisphere.

Corpse flowers are rare and can be miles apart in the wild, while the insects that pollinate them are mostly flies and beetles that does not travel very far to feed. Hence, chances of cross pollination is very slim and made even slimmer by the fact that the plant blooms for only a day or two every decade.

From the moment a bud appears, the plant undergoes an impressive transformation. At the beginning of the bloom cycle, the bud grows four inches per day. Then, parts of the bud's base fall off, and the large sheath that covers the bud opens, revealing a dark burgundy colour that look like a bloody body. Just like rotting flesh, the centre of the flower is hot, about the temperature of a human body.

The flower's sickly smell also attracts carnivorous insects which eats dead animals. People may be familiar with some of the scents, including timethylamine, a molecule that smells like rotting fish, according to a description by *National Geographic*. The magazine added that another substance made by the corpse flower, isovaleric acid, smells like cheesy and sweaty gym socks. These unpleasant smells is the strongest when the flower reaches peak bloom.

In the United States, the corpse flower in the New York Botanical Garden is not the only plant which are found in the country. People can also watch live-stream videos of a corpse flower at the botanic garden in Washington, D.C.

Adapted from Gegge, L. (July 25, 2016). *Smelly corpse flower about to bloom in NYC*. Retrieved from http://www.livescience.com/55533-corpse-flower-about-to-bloom.html

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Question 3: Tenses (10 marks)

Instructions: *For questions 1-10, read the text and choose the correct answer.*

Example (0) ___B___

Does bullfighting have a future in Spain?

In Spain, while many young boys play football after school, some choose to learn how to fight bulls. Each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, they **(0)** ___B___ classes at the arena in the centre of the town. Today, there (1) _____ 52 bullfighting schools in Spain, the most famous being the Marcial Lalanda in Madrid. There are, however, no official statistics on the number of students enrolled in them.

While these teenage boys dream of a future as a bullfighter, the likelihood of this dream coming true seems to be diminishing. Over the past ten years, policies adopted following the global economic crisis (2) _____ municipalities across Spain to stop financial support for a number of annual festivals, many of which involved bullfighting. The number of bullfights in the country has decreased by two-thirds. In 2007, 953 fights were held in Spain; in 2014, the number was 398. Some fans see this as just a temporary crisis, caused by the country's economic woes. They also believe that in the coming few years, the number (3) _____ back, and finances are not an obstacle for aspiring young bullfighters.

These aspiring young bullfighters are still given opportunities to achieve their dream of becoming a bullfighter, as they (4) _____ a chance to participate in smaller fights organised especially for junior bullfighters. To become a real bullfighter, juniors must perform at a minimum number of 35 of these small-scale bullfights. Last year, in 2015, 536 bullfights involving juniors (5) _____ held.

While the tradition of bullfighting dates back to hundreds of years, it has undergone many changes. Centuries ago, bullfighting schools did not exist, and aspiring fighters had to rely on a willing professional to teach them. Now, many bullfighting schools offer professional bullfighting training. In this sense, becoming a bullfighter may be easier today. However, these modern-day bullfighters (6) _____ more difficulties than their predecessors as competition is more intense today.

Three decades ago, bullfighting was still a tradition which was widely accepted as an integral part of Spanish society, but now, opposition to it (7) _____ within regional and municipal governments. The Canary Islands became the first part of the country to ban bullfighting when it made bullfighting an illegal activity in 1991. Six years ago, Catalonia (8) _____ suit.

Since last year's municipal elections, the newly elected left-wing governors of the provinces of Valencia and Alicante, and the Galician city of La Coruna (9) _____ subsidies for bullfights. In the summer of 2015, Palma de Mallorca was also officially declared an anti-bullfighting city, and in the last autumn, Madrid's mayor, Manuela Carmena, announced the withdrawal of the city council's 61,200 euro annual subsidy to the city's famous Lalanda bullfighting school. Now, animal rights associations (10) _____ with the regional government to ban bullfighting.

Adapted from Jobse, H. (October 15, 2016). *Does bullfighting have a future in Spain? Retrieved from* http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2016/07/bullfighting-future-spain-160712113548128.html

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0.	**A. attended**	**B. attend**	**C. have attended**	**D. were attending**
1.	A. will be	B. were	C. had been	D. are
2.	A. have forced	B. will have forced	C. are forcing	D. will be forcing
3.	A. bounces	B. bounced	C. will bounce	D. has bounced
4.	A. had	B. were having	C. have	D. will have had
5.	A. are	B. have been	C. were	D. will be
6.	A. encountered	B. encounter	C. had encountered	D. will have encountered
7.	A. grew	B. is growing	C. had grown	D. will have grown
8.	A. follows	B. followed	C. will follow	D. has followed
9.	A. discontinue	B. discontinued	C. will discontinue	D. have discontinued
10.	A. are working	B. were working	C. worked	D. will have worked

End of Paper